

1. A method of detecting breast cancer in a patient by determining the level of es-LAPase in a sample.
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the level of es-LAPase is determined by  
5 a method selected from the group consisting of: determining the activity of es-LAPase in a sample, and determining the presence of es-LAPase in a sample by an immunoassay.
3. The method according to claim 2 wherein the presence of es-LAPase is determined  
10 by an immunoassay using a monoclonal antibody which is specific for soluble and membrane associated es-LAPase.
4. The method according to claim 3 wherein the monoclonal antibody is produced by  
15 hybridoma cell line 7B6, deposited with the International Depositary Authority of Canada under Accession number IDAC 230300-1.
5. A method of detecting a metastatic cancer in a patient by determining the level of es-LAPase in a sample.
- 20 6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the level of es-LAPase is determined by a method selected from the group consisting of: determining the activity of es-LAPase in a sample, and determining the presence of es-LAPase in a sample by an immunoassay.
- 25 7. The method according to claim 6 wherein the presence of es-LAPase is determined by an immunoassay using a monoclonal antibody which is specific for soluble and membrane associated es-LAPase.
- 30 8. The method according to claim 7 wherein the monoclonal antibody is produced by hybridoma cell line 7B6, deposited with the International Depositary Authority of Canada under Accession number IDAC 230300-1.